

works. Condensers are to be erected by the Government in order to ensure the supply for a limited number during the summer. The Government has also promised to hasten the construction of the telegraph line to the field.

LONDON, February 1st.
Canon Danks, Rector of Richmond, has been offered and declined the position of Bishop of Wellington and Primate of New Zealand, in succession to Dr. O. Hadfield.

February 2nd.
Lord Cromer, the British Minister in Egypt, who has been suffering from a severe attack of illness, is recovering.

The blither attack made in the Chamber of Deputies on Friday night by M. Lockroy on the condition of the French navy formed the subject of a debate in the Chamber last night. M. Lockroy condemned the administration of affairs, and declared that the navy was not in an efficient state. He also asserted that many of the French ports were open to successful attacks by any hostile foreign power.

During the course of the debate last night the Minister of War and Marine made a spirited defence of the Administration, and declared that the allegations made by M. Lockroy were without the slightest degree of foundation.

The majority of the speakers supported the Government, and a vote of confidence in the policy of the Ministry was agreed to by a large majority.

A great deal of excitement has been caused in the United States by the incident at Rio de Janeiro when the admiral of the United States fleet there opened active hostilities towards Admiral de Mele, the insurgent leader, for refusing passage to a merchant vessel flying the American colours.

Telegrams from New York report that the secretary of the United States navy has been in communication with the admiral of the United States fleet at Rio de Janeiro in connection with the incident. The secretary states that the naval authorities have expressed entire approval of the course adopted by the admiral in going to the assistance of the barque and firing upon the insurgent fleet.

February 6th.
Mr. Slous, the African explorer, has published a statement regarding the killing by the British East Africa Co.'s forces of Gubogubo, Lobengula's brother, and two other Matabele warriors, who had been sent by King Lobengula as peace envoys to the British at Tati. The envoys were by a mistake arrested immediately on entering the place, and Gubogubo and his comrades were shot. Mr. Slous has given facts to show that the envoys committed deeds of violence, and attacked several troops before they were shot. He declares that the statement that they were shot without reason is without foundation.

The arrest in Holland of a band of forgers who had carried on most extensive operations with spurious bank notes has had a sensational development. One of the men who were put in goal in connection with the forgeries has been found dead in his cell, having committed suicide.

The distress amongst the labouring classes in England continues very acute, and at the meetings held daily in London the agitators are advocating a resort to violent measures. At a meeting held to-day the speakers declared that the time had arrived when it was necessary to take action, and that they were determined to meet force with force. They have threatened the police, and assert that they will resort to the use of pocket bombs as a means of retaliation.

February 7th.
Telegrams from Paris give particulars of a remarkable railway disaster which has occurred near Compiegne, in the north of France. By some means a cable of goods fell from one of the trucks attached to a goods train, and as the accident was not noticed at the time the case remained on the track.

A passenger train which came along the same road shortly afterwards, on the journey from Paris to Belgium, struck the case and was brought to a standstill.

A second passenger train was following, and the driver did not notice the stationary train in time to prevent a disaster. The second train dashed into the one ahead with terrible force, and several of the cars were completely wrecked. The work of extricating the passengers from the debris was proceeded with at once, and it was found that three persons had been killed, and 10 others were more or less seriously injured.

Deaths from St. Petersburg report that serious riots have taken place at the iron mines in the Ural Mountains. The miners, to the number of 5,000, took part in a general riot, and the disturbance became so serious that the troops had to be called out. A conflict ensued, and ultimately the rioters were repulsed, but not before many of their number had been killed and many others wounded.

It is reported that Princess Louise of Bulgaria, wife of Prince Ferdinand, is seriously ill, and hope of her recovery is uncertain. The latest bulletin reports that she is sinking fast. The Princess is a daughter of Robert, Duke of Parma, and was married on April 10th 1893, to Prince Ferdinand.

The despotic government of the Cameroons by Germany is causing general discontent. 25,000 worth of forged Dutch notes have been discovered in Holland and the forgers were arrested.

AUCKLAND, February 7th.
The barque *Gazelle* was wrecked on the coast of New Zealand last Saturday by being driven against a high bluff. All hands except two were drowned.

LONDON, February 8th.
The new bill providing for the better regulation and conduct of elections throughout the United States has been discussed finally by the Senate. The bill, which was yesterday finally adopted by the Senate, is a federal law and will provide safeguards against corruption.

The Russian Government has recently been subjecting Roman Catholics to much persecution on account of their religion. Remonstrances were made by the Vatican in consequence, but the Russian Government has not shown any way to relax the rigour of its regulations against Roman Catholics. As a result the relations between the Czar's Government and the Holy See are most strained.

The Emperor William of Germany has appointed Prince Frederick Leopold head of the Masonic Institution in Prussia.

The unemployed difficulty is again coming to the front in London, and several collisions with the police have taken place. Threats are being made that pocket explosives will be brought into use if the police persist in wanton interference.

Germany and Russia have signed an important commercial treaty, extending over a period of ten years, each country making several concessions calculated to promote the development of a big trade.

This move is said to be the outcome of the feeling of annoyance occasioned in Russia by France's recent action in increasing the import duties on Russian wheat.

Cavry, a town on the Galician coast, situated on the frontier between the Austro-Hungarian and the Russian Empire, has been forcibly seized by an armed French force.

Twelve prominent Russian Jews have been found poisoned.

PERTH, February 8th.
On Monday next several claims within 10 miles of Coolgardie will resume, although water is only procurable in limited quantities. Thirty of the prospectors have left Coolgardie with a camel to prospect for new finds about 100 miles north-west. The expedition is considered a perilous one.

SYDNEY, February 8th.
In the Sydney Electric Department two of the principal officers have been suspended pending an examination of their books. It is stated that their defalcations extend over a considerable period, and involve a large sum of money, made up of small amounts of misappropriation.

BRISBANE, February 8th.
The Queensland Deposit Bank and Building Society has announced its inability to meet its obligations, as imposed by the scheme of arrangement sanctioned in 1891.

During the month of January the Mount Morgan Gold Mining Co. treated 5,900 tons of stone, which yielded 7,200 ounces of gold.

LONDON, February 9th.
Superior City, U.S.A., offers a purse of 50,000 dollars for a fight between James J. Corbett, the champion pugilist, and Peter Jackson.

ANGLAND, February 12th.
Considerable distress is prevalent among the unemployed, and those dependent upon them, and public and private efforts are being made to afford relief. The Government is acting cautiously in the matter, and various schemes are afoot for the establishment of village and co-operative settlements.

LONDON, February 12th.
The *Havoc*, the new English war vessel constructed for the special purpose of destroying torpedo boats, has proved so swift and effective that orders have been issued for building several more vessels of the same type.

M. Pasteur now offers to sell to the Australian Government all rights to the anthrax cure for the sum of fifteen thousand pounds sterling.

The American ship *Kearsage*, of historical renown as the vessel which sank the *Alabama* in 1864, has just foundered in the Caribbean Sea. All the crew were saved. She was a vessel of 1,550 tons, length 197 feet, beam 33 feet, mean draught 15 ft. 9 in.

Some serious fighting has occurred between French troops and the natives in West Sudan. A large town near Timbuctoo has been captured by Col. Bonniers and a French column.

The fighting was very severe, and several of the French officers were killed.

February 12th.
A disastrous blizzard has occurred in the western States of America, blocking railway traffic and destroying a large number of cattle, and many people were injured.

President Cleveland declines to overthrow his idea of establishing a Protectional Government at Hawaii.

Sir Andrew Clarke has received an offer from a respectable Manchester firm to run a line of five steamers from Manchester to Australia conveying Manchester goods and returning with colonial produce.

Several deaths from cholera have occurred at Stamboul.

The Imperial Admiralty, as an experiment, intend to draft 100 junior officers and 500 men out of the Reserve into the Navy to supply the present deficiency.

A young anarchist named Breton, through revenge of Vaillant, entered a crowded *café* in Paris and threw a bomb amongst the crowd, with the result that 15 persons were injured. He was arrested after several wounds, a police officer and a woman with a revolver. He was nearly lynched by the crowd. He declares that further outrages have been arranged.

The Khedive of Egypt has promoted several English officers.

The Brazilian insurgents made a fierce attack on Amacoo, but were repulsed by Niteroy, the garrison on both sides losing heavily. Admiral Decaux received two wounds.

The Anarchists have started their revenge programme consequent on the execution of M. Vaillant by the authorities, by throwing a dynamite bomb into the Cronin Café, Paris, wherein were a number of persons who had been concerned in the trial of the dead Anarchist. The building was completely wrecked by the explosion, one of the inmates being killed and fifteen others badly wounded. The Anarchist then drew a revolver and shot down a policeman who attempted to prevent his escape. A crowd quickly gathered in the vicinity, who mobbed the miscreant and were proceeding to lynch him, when he was rescued by the intervention of the police. Since his arrest the prisoner has stated that several other outrages have been planned.

A terrible blizzard has swept across the western States of America, causing an incalculable amount of damage. Several ships are reported and a number of lives lost, and traffic on nearly all the railway lines is blocked by frozen snow drifts.

A severe storm has also swept over the United Kingdom, resulting in immense destruction of property and loss of life.

A carrier named Wyndham, supposed to be insane, has been arrested for threatening to shoot the Queen. He claims to be entitled to a coronation.

The unemployed agitation in London continues, and several of the leading agitators suggest the hanging of the Duke of Westminster and other prominent landlords.

February 12th.
Cholera is raging at Constantinople.

Baron de Lesseps has been appointed honorary President of the Suez Canal.

The greater part of Germany has been devastated by a terrific hurricane. The destruction of life and property has been very great.

The war scare again to the front, and serious uneasiness prevails throughout Europe, continuously augmented by numberless rumours of a disquieting nature.

It is asserted on what is alleged to be the best authority that Serbia is calling in all her reserves and making other preparations for war, and the old theory about the coming great struggle between the European Powers originating in the Balkan Peninsula is being revived.

The Hon. R. Reid, Victorian Minister for Defence, who is at present in London, is urging the Government to make some arrangements for mutual defence being concluded between England and Australia, with a view to the more efficient protection of their immense trade interests in the by no means improbable event of a general European war involving England and her colonies. His utterances are being very warmly received.

Admiral Gama, one of the prominent leaders of the insurrectionary movement in Brazil, has been seriously wounded and by latest reports was in a dying condition.

SYDNEY, February 12th.
The schooner *Sydneyella*, *Sia Nymph* and *Indal* have arrived in Sydney, from Queensland ports. They report having experienced terrible weather from Koppal Bay, having more than one narrow escape from being wrecked.

Mr. Paisley, Mayor of Burwood, who was shot by the Town Clerk on Monday, died on Tuesday afternoon from the injuries. At the inquest held on the body at Redfern on Tuesday, the jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased came by his death while in a state of temporary insanity.

MELBOURNE, February 12th.
A new and important gold discovery has been made in the north-eastern district of Victoria.

BRISBANE, February 12th.
The Full Court yesterday quashed the conviction of Reubin Mangan, who was found guilty at Rockhampton recently, charged with stealing gold from the Mount Morgan Company.

F. W. Wilson, of F. W. Wilson & Co, biscuit manufacturers, of the city, was yesterday found dead at his home (death, which is thought to have been self-inflicted, having resulted from a heart attack).

Charles Bowen, while bathing in the Fitzroy River, near Rockhampton, on Monday, dived into the water on to a sandbank. When he came to the surface he was found to be paralysed, and he died yesterday afternoon.

A crushing of three tons of stone from Mountsney Recovery claim at Ullam, has yielded 93 ounces of gold.

Several parcels of tea consigned to firms in Brisbane have been condemned by the Customs authorities.

SYDNEY, February 19th.
A deputation of the Sydney unemployed has been bluntly informed by the Premier, Sir G. R. Dibbs, that the blatant agitators and the Labour Councils are largely responsible for the bitter distress so prevalent in Sydney and other Australian cities. The people had become demoralised by the high wages obtained in the past, and the charitable donations received whilst engaged in their industrial disputes. It would be much better now, and evidence that they still possessed some self-respect, were they to accept the inevitable reductions of wages in a manly spirit, instead of perpetually petitioning for assistance.

Agitation is prevalent among both sheavers and colliers in New South Wales, and big general strikes are feared.

LONDON, February 19th.
On Thursday last a French anarchist named Bowdoin was found dying in a horribly mutilated condition, outside Greenwich Observatory, London. An examination of the body revealed the fact that he had been carrying a bottle of powerful explosive, which he had accidentally let fall with fatal result.

Other important discoveries have been made by the police in connection with the affair, throwing light on anarchism in London.

M. Bourdieu's associates have all fled from London.

M. Gatois, a noted anarchist, has gone to Paris. He is in possession of a million francs, and is believed to be about to strike a heavy blow in the interests of anarchism.

The French press violently denounces the English Government for its passive tolerance of the anarchists.

The French Government is reviving all the severe provisions of the old passport system with a view to keeping the anarchists in view.

The next of anarchists destroyed all important documents before taking flight from London. King Lobengula is dead.

February 22nd.
Great excitement has been created in Paris by the disclosures in London, and some scores of anarchists have been arrested by the authorities. The anarchists have made several futile attempts to entice the police into buildings specially prepared, with a view to blowing them into fragments. The Commissary of Police narrowly escaped this fate whilst acting on some false information.

The Hungarian peasantry have cruelly crucified an old woman ignorantly supposed to be guilty of witchcraft. The woman died after enduring great agony.

A desperado in Texas shot dead a policeman who was endeavouring to arrest him, also two unoffending spectators, and mortally wounded three others. He was then rushed by the crowd and narrowly escaped lynching.

The London police have succeeded in discovering a number of highly important documents on the premises recently occupied by M. Bourdieu, the French anarchist accidentally killed last week. Among other things the papers contain a long list of the names of anarchists residing in different parts of the world. The important information has been telegraphed by the London police to the different continental centres, the result being a great number of arrests.

Several further dynamite bomb outrages have been perpetrated in Paris, the wrecked buildings in nearly every instance being hotels. A number of lives have been sacrificed.

James Spencer Ballou, the embarraser, arrested recently in the Argentine Republic under an extradition warrant, demands his release.

PERTH, February 22nd.
David Lindsay has visited a new discovery made forty-five miles east of the White Feather field, and reports good alluvial and promising-looking reefs.

Further high finds of a highly sensational character have been made in Bayley's "Reward" claim.

NEWS BY THE AMERICAN MAIL.
The Occidental and Oriental Co.'s steamship *Delight*, Capt. Wm. H. Walker, from San Francisco, via Yokohama, with the America malle up to 8th February, arrived in the harbour to-day. We are indebted to our San Francisco exchanges for the subjoined telegrams:—

LONDON, January 30th.
The Jacobites held a memorial service at midnight to commemorate the anniversary of the execution of Charles I. beheaded in 1649. They decorated the statue of Charles I at Charing Cross.

PARIS, January 30th.
The *Figaro* publishes an interview held at Bourneville with Dr. Cornelius Herz, who fled to England to escape the consequence of his connection with the Panama canal frauds. He says that unless the canal company can be arranged by to-morrow he will publish all the documents in his possession. Startling revelations are expected in case this is done.

VIENNA, January 30th.
The Brazilian Government has purchased 8,000 rifles from the Steyer factory, and 70,000 more rifles have been ordered from the Loewes of Germany.

PORTLAND (Or.), January 30th.
Mrs. George H. Williams, mistress of the faith cure, has recovered from her last of seventy days' illness, and is now able to walk and attend to her usual duties. She has been suffering from a severe attack of rheumatism, and with her 150 disciples are rejoicing that they have passed through the "wilderness." She looks a little older and thinner, but is as healthy as usual.

LONDON, January 31st.
At the Admiralty and Foreign Office Admiral Benham's action in firing on the Brazilian rebels is hardly approved. The Brazilian Minister said to the Associated Press to-day that he believed the end of the revolt is imminent. The fact that Da Gama talked of surrender would have the same effect on the insurgent ranks as if he actually surrendered. He believes that if the insurgent Admiral finally surrenders to Benham he will be handed over to Brazil.

RIO JANEIRO, January 31st.
A launch loaded with coal and firing the German flag was fired on by the *Guadalupe* yesterday in the harbor. Captain Holmeyer of the German man-of-war *Arcona* at once went aboard the rebel war ship and told her commander he was now receiving his last warning, and that if he fired again upon anything flying the German flag the German war ship would sink his vessel. The rebel commander replied that he could only be sunk once and he would fight the thing out.

Captain Holmeyer then cabled to Berlin that he would co-operate with the American Admiral in defending commerce from rebel molestation. It is expected the English naval commander here will soon receive instructions to the same effect.

After futile efforts by the insurgents to force a landing at Armacoo to-day their ships resumed the old anchorage.

A good deal of confusion has arisen about the exchange of shots between the *Delight* and the rebel war ship on Monday. The facts are that the rebel war ship fired upon a boat of the American merchantman *Arny*, and then the *Delight* fired a blank charge and followed this by a solid shot, which struck the *Arny's* rudder. A boatman from the *Delight* rowed to the *Libertade* then and told Da Gama that Admiral Benham would not permit interference with vessels flying the American flag. Then the *Trifano* fired a shot towards the city of Rio, ending the affair.

The action of Admiral Benham in protecting American ships has had a salutary effect. English and merchant ships of other nationalities are now coming up to the wharves without any sign of molestation by the insurgent vessels. Benham's bold stand is generally applauded.

The exchange of shots between the insurgent and Government vessels has practically ceased during the past twenty-four hours. This is the first time for four months that a day has passed that there was not more or less firing.

All foreigners are delighted with the result of the Admiral's conduct.

The commanders of the foreign fleets held a conference to discuss the action of Benham and resolutions were adopted fully endorsing the course pursued.

Much regret is expressed at the absence from Rio of the American Consul-General, Townes. Vice-Consul Lewis is little more than a boy, and Americans hardly think him fitted to act as representative of the United States at such a critical juncture. They say his lack of familiarity with diplomatic affairs is liable to lead him constantly into blunders.

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To-day's Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL.
RETURN VISIT OF THE LONDON LYRIC COMPANY.
Proprietors:—F. E. HARRY & SAVILLE SMITH.
Manager:—SAVILLE SMITH.
Under the Diligence and Patronage of H.E. Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G.

TONIGHT.
"THE GUARDSMAN."
TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), 7th March, "LIBERTY HALL."
THURSDAY, 8th March, "ARTFUL CARDS."
FRIDAY, 9th March, "I O."

SATURDAY, 10th March.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
NEW VARIETIES to follow each Play.
Full Orchestra from the Shropshire Regiment under the Leadership of Bandmaster Murphy.
PRICES AS USUAL.
Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform, half-price to Back Seats only.
Doors open at 8.30. Commencing at 9 o'clock.
A Special Tram will run to the Peak after the Performance.
Box Office at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, Ltd.
EDWIN FERGUSON, Business Manager.

HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.
NOTICE.
THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS, advertised for THURSDAY, 8th instant, is POSTPONED until THURSDAY, the 15th instant, at 4 o'clock. THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED until 15th instant.
By Order of the Board,
R. LYALL, Secretary.

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.
FOR LONDON AND HAMBURG, VIA SINGAPORE.
THE Steamship "DENBIGHSHIRE,"
Davies, Commander, will be despatched for the above Ports on THURSDAY, the 8th instant, at Noon

